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MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN 06-03

February 17, 2003

ST. JOHNS RIVER CHANNEL CLOSURE

The Coast Guard is establishing a temporary fixed safety zone within the Dames Point Fulton Cutoff Range on the St. Johns River, Jacksonville, Florida. The temporary safety zone encompasses a 700-yard radius around the USNS BOB HOPE while moored at berth 33, Blount Island, position 30-23.4 N, 081-32.5 W. This rule is effective during loading of the USNS BOB HOPE and is necessary to protect all mariners and the general public from the hazards associated with the loading of military cargo. This closure is effective from 5 p.m. February 17 until cancelled by the U. S. Coast Guard.

The U. S. Coast Guard will authorize transits through the Safety Zone. Vessel Operators must contact the U. S. Coast Guard Blount Island Command Post a minimum of 30 minutes prior to approaching the Safety Zone.

For further information contact the Blount Island Command Post on VHF-FM channel 16 or (904) 696-7945, with any questions regarding the safety zone.

M. M. ROSECRANS Captain, U.S. Coast Guard Captain of the Port